May, 1992 and during each quarter of 1991 are given in the table below:—

	No. of persons arrested
January to March, 1991	349
April to June, 1991	300
July to September, 1991	201
October to Decemher, 1991	159

and will be laid on the Table the House).

(e) The Customs authorities remain alert against smuggling including that of gold. Sophisticated equipment such as X-ray baggage machines and metal detectors are being increasingly utilised. The anti-smuggling drive has been intensified and close coordination is being maintained between all the agencies concerned with the detection and prevention of smuggling.

Reserve Bank of India guidelines (or non-banking financial companies

564. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Wil1 the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Reserve Bank of India has recently, an nounced fresh guidelines for non-banking (financial companies;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether the non-banking financial companies would be benefited as a result thereof; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRl DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBJ) have reported that they have recently amended their direct tions issued to non-banking financial companies. The important amendments are as under:—

(i) The non-banking financial con panies can now pay interest or con pound interest at monthly rates.

(ii) Deposits can now be accepte by non-banking financial companies i joint names not exceeding three wit clauses like "Either or survivor' "Anyone or Survivor" etc.

(iii) Interest at a rate not exceedin 11 percent per annum can be paid deposits are withdrawn premature after 12 months but before 24 months

(iv) If a company is engaged botl depositor, the deposit can be repai prematurely to the surviving depositor his legal heir with interest at the coi tracted rate.

(v)If a company is engaged bot in hire purchase finance and equii ment leasing activities, its business i both these activities will be takei together in determining its classificatioi

(c) and (d) RBI have reported ths the measures relating to deposits provid greater flexibility for depositors an thereby facilitate deposit mobilisation.